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The involvement of Indian colleagues in the ABIDAT programme is an outstanding development for the future of dryland agriculture in the sub-continent. The construction of the ABIDAT collaboration will bring benefits for the ABAN Group of India by direct access to today's leading studies of dryland agriculture pursued by scholars at the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (BGUN). Environment protection, the sustainable use of resources, and the promotion of these activities are key elements for Indian dryland farmers both now and in the future. Farmers already face the demanding challenges of food production in fragile ecosystems, and they are now exposed to the damaging threats of climate change and to finding new ways to adapt. The courses provided by ABIDAT through this new initiative offer hope for the future.

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